

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant(s): Rosario Cincimino et al.

Filing Date: June 26, 2000

Atty Docket No.: US20000147

Provisional Application No: 60/214,209

Title: "LOAD UNBALANCE PREDICTION METHOD AND APPARATUS IN AN APPLIANCE"

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, Applicants request that citation and examination of the following patents be made during the course of examination of the above-referenced application for United States Patent:

| <u>REF.</u> | <u>PATENT NO.</u> | <u>PATENTEE</u> | <u>ISSUE DATE</u> |
|-------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| AA | 4,765,161 | Williamson | 08/23/88 |
| AB | 5,070,565 | Sood et al. | 12/10/91 |

| <u>REF.</u> | <u>PATENT NO.</u> | <u>COUNTRY</u> | <u>PUBLICATION DATE</u> |
|-------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| AC | 0071308 B1 | EPO | 14/05/85 |
| AD | 0313339 B1 | EPO | 14/12/94 |
| AE | 0394177 A2 | EPO | 05/04/90 |
| AF | 0969133 A1 | EPO | 05/01/00 |

A copy of each reference is attached for the Examiner's convenience and review.

Applicants' agent respectfully submits that none of the references teach or suggest, singly, or, where permissible, in combination, the invention claimed in the present application and therefore Applicants look forward to receiving early and favorable consideration of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

By Thomas J. Roth
Thomas J. Roth, Reg. No. 32,294
Telephone: 616-923-5604

WHIRLPOOL PATENTS COMPANY
500 RENAISSANCE DRIVE
SUITE 102 - MD 0750
ST. JOSEPH, MICHIGAN 49085

Date: 6/20/01